

SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL

TO : [] 13 May, 1957.
FROM : Mr. A. Kurgvel No: 31.
SUBJECT: Old Relations: Mr. MANDL, Romulus.

1. On Thursday, 9 May 1957, I received a short letter from Mr. Romulus MANDEL indicating that he has recently arrived from Germany to the United States, that he is looking for employment, and would like to speak with me about "old things."
2. I met Mr. Mandel in Germany, in June/July 1952, when I used him as a spotter in the Labor Service Company in which he worked. The information which he supplied was passed by me to the contact officer of this Agency. At that time Mr. Mandel knew that I was working for the American Government. He had the reputation of a good officer.
3. According to my file-notes Mr. Mandel is born 26 Oct. 1915, at LINNAMAE, Estonia. He graduated Highschool (Gymnasium) at VORU, Estonia, in 1936. 1936-1941 he served in the Estonian Army, advancing to the grade of Lieutenant of Artillery. Taken to Soviet Union together with his unit, he fled ~~the~~ Red Army, and after that, in 1942, was POW in German hands. 1942-1944 he was a farmer in LINNAMAE, Estonia. Time unknown, he fled to Finland, and was Commanding Officer of a battery at KARJALA (Karyala) theater of military operations. 1944-1948 he lived as a Displaced Person in Germany. Since 1948 Platoon-Leader in Labor Service Company 2040 (LSC), at Rhein-Main Air Lift. Since 1949 Platoon-Leader in LSC 4221. (Both LSC companies were American units.) Mr. Mandel is divorced. (He came to the USA together with his daughter. This information I have from an Estonian newspaper.) One of Mr. Mandel's brothers was shot by the Communists.
4. Mr. Mandel lives temporarily at 601 W 190 Str. New York 40, N.Y., c/o Mr. Piller. Telephone: Wadstone 3-9197. Through Mr. Piller, who knows me a little, Mr. Mandel might have heard that I am now working with the "Army".
5. I will write Mr. Mandel a letter acknowledging receipt of his letter and promising to give a ring when I will be again in New York.
6. Are there any suggestions as to my talk with Mr. Mandel, be it concerning his interest of finding an employment in the "Army" where I work, or concerning our old relation of 1952, which was a business-matter only (in the sense that I would not have contacted him had I not needed his help, which he gave voluntarily, without asking any favors).

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